1	2	3	4	5
16.	Manipur	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	42	15	-64.28
18.	Mizoram	89	11	-87.64
19.	Nagaland	8	0	-100
20.	Orissa	108	195	80.56
21.	Punjab	10	20	10
22.	Rajasthan	683	674	-1.32
23.	Sikkim	5	6	20
24.	Tamil Nadu	394	403	2.28
25.	Tripura	0	17	1700
26.	Uttaranchal	*	*	*
27.	Uttar Pradesh	23	14	-39.13
28.	West Bengal	5	15	200
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	3	200
30.	Chandigarh	14	16	14.28
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	0	-100
32.	Daman & Diu	1	0	-100
33.	Delhi	246	288	17.07
34..	Lakshadweep	0	1	100
35.	Pondicherry	12	6	-50
	TOTAL:	9339	8888	-4.83

*Not applicable, as these States were not formed at that time.

Threat of Biological Weapons

*198. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether our already stretched health infrastructure is capable of meeting the anticipated threat of biological weapons like Anthrax etc. in the wake of deteriorating international scenario;

(b) if so, whether any additional facilities are being created for this purpose; and

(c) whether Government would be launching an information campaign for this purpose so that public could know what to do in an emergency and where to go for treatment later?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The existing health infrastructure is capable of meeting the anticipated threat. The Government has taken following actions in the context of the present international scenario:

1. A detailed list of biological agents used as weapons prepared by the Indian Council of Medical Research along with signs and symptoms, likely method of dissemination, incubation period, lethality and the availability of vaccines, anti-microbial threapy and treatment has been circulated to Health Secretary and Director of Health Services of all States/UTs, and Central Government hospitals advising them to take following precautionary steps.

- Earmarking of maximum number of beds for emergency contingency.
- Stocking of vaccines/sera/drugs to the extent possible.
- Setting up a special team of doctors for coordinated action. They should be sensitized on the impact of such weapons and treatment measures.

2. Two expert group meetings were held (1st & 17th October) in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to review the management (diagnosis, treatment, IEC activities etc.) of recently emerging diseases of public health importance like Dengue, Anthrax etc. Eminent experts in the field of medical science from different organizations in the country, senior officials of Ministry of Health & F.W., and chiefs of different Government and private hospitals in Delhi participated in the meeting and deliberated on various aspects of the bio-terrorism in the backdrop of the current global situation.

3. Two expert group meetings (18th and 21st October, 2001) were held to finalise guidelines to be issued in CD Alert.

4. National Institute of Communicable Diseases, 22, Sham Nath Marg, Delhi-110054, an Institute under Directorate General of Health Services

has been designated as the nodal agency for carrying out the tests of suspected Anthrax samples. A round the clock control room is functioning {(Telephone Nos. 3912901) (Between 10.00 A.M. to 6.00 P.M.) & 3971875 (Between 6.00 P.M. to 10.00 A.M.)} to receive and test the suspected samples. Till the evening of 27th November, 2001, 322 suspected envelopes were received in the NICD for testing. 303 samples have already been tested, none was found positive.

5. CD Alert, a monthly Newsletter of National Institute of Communicable Diseases titled "Bioterrorism-Public Health system to Remain Alert" exclusively on Anthrax has been widely circulated. It has also been put in the Website of MOHFW (http://mohfw.nic.in) for information of general public.
6. Do's & Don'ts has already been published in the leading National Dailies regarding Anthrax.
7. A meeting-cum workshop on Biological & Chemical Terrorism was convened by the Department of Health on 29th October, 2001, in New Delhi wherein Health Secretary, Home Secretary and Director of Health Services from various States/UTs., eminent experts in the field of medical science from different organizations in the country and heads of different hospitals in Government and private sector in Delhi participated and deliberated on various aspects. The representatives from the States informed the preparatory measures taken by them and assured availability of drugs in adequate quantity to tackle any situation.
8. Continuing Medical Education activities are being conducted in the Central Government hospitals in Delhi to sensitise the medical and paramedical personnel on biological terrorism.
9. The situation is being monitored.

Confirmation Tests for HIV

*199. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) which are the tests required to be conduced for confirmation of HIV;

(b) whether tests for HIV confirmation are different for children less than, two years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether HIV testing machines are available in the Medical Colleges;